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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | Application Number     | 09/996,423        |
|  | Filing Date            | November 28, 2001 |
|  | First Named Inventor   | Whitman et al.    |
|  | Group Art Unit         | 2823              |
|  | Examiner Name          | T. Pham           |
|  | Attorney Docket Number | 2269-4294.3US     |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)   |   |  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 in response to final office action dated _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional claims fee - Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____  | <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Letter to Chief Draftsman and copy of FIGS. _____ with changes made in red   | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transmittal of Formal Drawings   | Remarks   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Formal Drawings ( _____ sheets)  | The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees required but not submitted with any document or request requiring fee payment under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 to Deposit Account 20-1469 during pendency of this application. |  |

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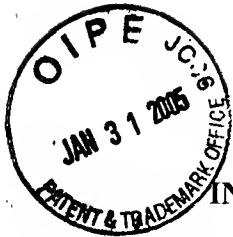
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| Date                    | January 26, 2005 |                         |

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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:**

Whitman et al.

**Serial No.:** 09/996,423

**Filed:** November 28, 2001

**For:** SPIN COATING FOR MAXIMUM  
FILL CHARACTERISTIC YIELDING A  
PLANARIZED THIN FILM SURFACE

**Confirmation No.:** 2810

**Examiner:** T. Pham

**Group Art Unit:** 2823

**Attorney Docket No.:** 2269-4294.3US  
(98-1208.03/US)

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January 26, 2005  
Date

*Rachael M. Harris*  
Signature

Rachael M. Harris  
Name (Type/Print)

**RESPONSE**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed on October 26, 2004, the three-month shortened statutory period for response to which expires on January 26, 2005.